The Australian Curriculum and Risdon!

Children who start preschool today will leave school from 2026 to live and work in a vastly different world than today. They will start careers for jobs that have not even been invented yet. In the last few years you may have heard talk of the Australian Curriculum. The Australian Curriculum will eventually be developed for all learning areas and subjects set out in the Melbourne Declaration, a document which was written by representatives from each state that plans for the educational future of Australia.

Learning areas initially included are: English, Mathematics, Science and History; followed by Geography, Languages, the Arts, Economics, Business, Civics and Citizenship, Health and Physical Education, and Information and Communication Technology and Design and Technology.

The Australian Curriculum in the 21st century needs to acknowledge the changing ways in which young people will learn and the challenges that will continue to shape their learning in the future. The curriculum is important in setting out what will be taught, what students need to learn and the expected quality of that learning. Teaching and learning is more complex than 20 or even 10 years ago. Improved student achievement is paramount and learning expectations are high from DECD (Department of Education and Child Development).

This week the staff of Risdon have been actively engaged in learning about the General Capabilities and how we can plan for them. The general capabilities define knowledge, skills, behaviours and dispositions that can be developed and applied across the curriculum to help students become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens. Learning areas provide opportunities for students to develop and use general capabilities. The general capabilities which are included in the Australian Curriculum are:

**Literacy** - Students become literate as they develop the skills to learn and communicate confidently at school and to become effective individuals, community members, workers and citizens. These skills include listening, reading and viewing, writing, speaking and creating print, visual and digital materials accurately and purposefully within and across all learning areas.

**Numeracy** - students become numerate as they develop the capacity to recognise and understand the role of mathematics in the world around them and the confidence, willingness and ability to apply mathematics to their lives in ways that are constructive and meaningful.
**Information and communication technology (ICT) capability** - Students develop ICT competence as they learn to use ICT effectively and appropriately when investigating, creating and communicating ideas and information at school, at home, at work and in their communities.

**Critical and creative thinking** - students develop critical and creative thinking as they learn to generate and evaluate knowledge, ideas and possibilities, and use them when seeking new pathways or solutions.

**Ethical behaviour** - Students develop ethical behaviour as they learn to understand and act in accordance with ethical principles. This includes understanding the role of ethical principles, values and virtues in human life; acting with moral integrity; acting with regard for others, and having a desire and capacity to work for the common good.

**Intercultural understanding** - students develop intercultural understanding as they learn to understand themselves in relation to others. This involves students valuing their own cultures and beliefs and those of others, and engaging with people of diverse cultures in ways that recognise commonalities and differences, create connections and cultivate respect between people.

**Personal and social capability** - students develop personal and social competence as they learn to understand and manage themselves, their relationships, lives, work and learning more effectively. This involves recognising and regulating their emotions, developing concern and understanding of others, establishing positive relationships, making responsible decisions, working effectively in teams and handling challenging situations constructively. Parents and families are their children's first teachers, laying the foundation for their early learning and wellbeing. How you help your child develop these skills makes a lifetime of difference.

Rebecca Oaklands

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**Have your Say:**

**New Numeracy and Literacy Strategy**

– Birth to 18

You are invited to have your say about a new Numeracy and Literacy Strategy – Birth to 18 for South Australian public preschool and school communities.

The proposed strategy is outlined in a new paper to support community discussion released by the Minister for Education and Child Development, Grace Portolesi.

Parents and families understand and value the importance of children developing numeracy and literacy skills. Being able to read, talk, write and spell and to understand and use maths knowledge and skills are essential for active participation in our society.

The strategy will build on the many successful achievements and programs that work in our preschool and school communities.

Encouraging parents and educators to work together to develop these important foundational skills for children is central to the proposed strategy.

Based on research, the discussion paper includes six key drivers:

1. All children benefit from a great start
2. Families and communities play a key role
3. Supporting every child to be successful
4. Teachers make a difference
5. A focus on numeracy and literacy leadership
6. Achieving high numeracy and literacy standards

These drivers work together to renew our combined efforts and resources to improve these skills for children and young people in our school/preschool community. The new strategy will be introduced from the 2013 school/preschool year.

You are invited to attend a Forum to be held in Port Pirie next week:

**When:** November 14th, 9 – 10.00 a.m.

**Where:** Risdon Park Primary School (refreshments available)

Alternatively you could visit [http://saplan.org.au/yoursay](http://saplan.org.au/yoursay) before 30 November or email [DECD.NumeracyandLiteracy@sa.gov.au](mailto:DECD.NumeracyandLiteracy@sa.gov.au) to contribute your views and ideas or email [numeracyandliteracy@sa.gov.au](mailto:numeracyandliteracy@sa.gov.au).

Copies of the paper are also available at (our school/preschool) or visit [www.DECD.sa.gov.au](http://www.DECD.sa.gov.au).
Interschool sports day 2012

Risdon were competing against St Marks Silesians, St Marks Samaritans and Pirie West. Everyone in the team was very excited and enthusiastic. When we got there we formed lines and sang the national anthem and listened to a speech by Emily Condon who opened the sports day. We had sprints and marathon where our team put their best in. We ended up winning a few sprints and winning most marathons. Team games we mainly came 3rd but everyone was still energetic and happy. There were a lot of cheering and singing team cheers! At the end of the day everyone formed lines again and the memorial shield awards began. Risdon won the Charlie Olson running shield, the most improved shield and came 3rd overall. The day was enjoyed by everyone.

Ebony Bennier

PE WEEK 2012

Last week we joined in the activities of PE week. Promoting physical activity and healthy living are some of the key outcomes.

Kids Co came up with some lunchtime activities including skipping, hula hoop, marbles and dance which was enjoyed by all.

I have included some activities which encourage students to do with their families before they turn 13. Getting outside and using our environment can help stimulate children’s thinking and learning.

Did you know:

In the age of Facebook and smartphones, children are more sedentary than ever even when they are outside with one in 10 unable to ride a bike.

### 50 Things to do before you are 13:

1. Climb a tree
2. Roll down a really big hill
3. Camp out in the wild
4. Build a den
5. Swim a stone
6. Run around in the rain
7. Fly a kite
8. Catch a fish with a net
9. Eat an apple straight from a tree
10. Play marbles
11. Throw a wet sponge
12. Hunt for treasure on the beach
13. Make a mud pie
14. Dam a stream
15. Go hill-top racing
16. Hunt an adult in the sand
17. Set up a small race
18. Balance on a fallen tree
19. Swing on a rope swing
20. Make a mud slide
21. Eat strawberries picked from a farm or your backyard
22. Take a look inside a tree
23. Visit an island
24. Feel like you’re flying in the wind
25. Make a gum leaf instrument
26. Hunt for trilobates and bones
27. Watch the sun wake up
28. Climb a huge hill
29. Get behind a waterfall
30. Feed a bird from your hand
31. Hunt for bugs
32. Catch a tadpole or a frog
33. Catch a butterfly in a net
34. Track wild animals
35. Discover what’s in a pond
36. Call an owl
37. Check out the crazy creatures in a rock pool
38. Bring up a butterfly
39. Catch a crab
40. Go on a nature walk at night
41. Paint it, grow it, cut it
42. Go wild swimming
43. Go fishing
44. Light a fire without matches
45. Find your way with a map and compass
46. Try climbing rocks
47. Cook on a campfire
48. Try abseiling
49. Find a geocache
50. Canoe down a river
New enrolment

Name(s)……………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………
will be a new enrolment at RPPS next year.

Date of birth……./……/………

Year level in 2012   ______

Parent/Guardian (please print name)
………………………………………………..

Contact phone number…………………………………………

Transferring to another school

Names(s)……………………………………………………………………
……………………………………………………………………………………
will be transferring to
……………………………………………………………………………………
next year.

Parent/Guardian Name & signature please.
……………………………………………………………………………………

XMAS RAFFLE

The fundraising committee are conducting a Christmas hampers raffle.

Donations of non perishable food items and/ or gifts would be greatly appreciated.

Raffle books will go home soon, so keep an eye out for yours.

Thanks from the Fundraising committee.

Planning for 2013

One of our tasks is to construct classes for 2013. As yet I cannot inform you of the 2013 class set up or the assigned teachers. A number of teachers are choosing not to return to Risdon in 2013 and others will be returning from leave, some in a part time capacity and others will be full time. So, even though there is lots of planning still to do I would like to invite parents to put in writing their requests for 2013 class placement on educational and /or student relationship grounds. To assist us in our planning for 2013, please complete the tear off slip if your child/ren will not be attending Risdon Park in 2013, or notify us of any new enrolments.

Thank you!

RISDON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

INFORMING US OF CHILDREN’S ABSENCES

School: 8632 2226
Mobile: 0409 097 059

- Name of your child
- Class teacher or room number
- Day/s he or she will be away
- Reason for his or her absence

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……………………………………………………………………………………
Music Tuition
Wendy Palmer is now taking enrolments for Piano, guitar and singing tuition for 2013
Please contact: 86322659

DISCO POOL PARTY
Friday 16th November
7.00—9.30pm
Port Pirie Swimming Pool
Mary Elie St
Port Pirie
8—16 Years $5 each
Loads of prizes and giveaways
Food & drink available
No Passouts

HEAD LICE continue to invade our students. It is important to make regular weekly or even daily checks of your child/ren’s hair. If any of your family get head lice it is not a reflection on your hygiene, but just that the little pests like clean hair.

What to look for: small light or dark brown insects without wings. Tiny white eggs (nits) on the hair shafts. Intense itching on the head and neck.

What to do if found please treat your child, use a fine tooth comb to remove all lice and their eggs. Use an effective head lice treatment. The pharmacy can advise you.

- Check all members of the household at the same time.
- Soak combs, brushes etc in hot water for at least 10 min.
- Wash bed linen, hats, hair ties
- Vacuuming carpets may help
- Keep checking every 2 days until there are no head lice found for 10 consecutive days.
- Repeat treatment 7-10 days after initial treatment to break the cycle.

The education department regulations state that students who have head lice are not to come to school until they have had effective treatment.

MEMORIAL PARK CHRISTMAS CAROLS EVENT

Risdon Park Primary School has been invited to participate this year again to perform an item at the Memorial Park Christmas Carols Concert which is on the 9th of December between 6.45 and 7.30pm.

If any mums, dads or grandparents would like to be involved in helping the students put together their performance please contact Emma Lynn at the school on 86322226 if Emma is unavailable please leave your name and number and she will call you back.

Practices will be either Monday or Wednesday lunch time which is between 1.10 and 1.40 in weeks 6, 7, 8 and 9.